

## REMARKS

1. In response to the outstanding Office Action mailed July 23, 2007, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration. Claims 1-43 were last presented for examination. Claims 1-18 have been allowed; claims 19-21 were rejected and claims 22-43 were previously withdrawn from consideration. By the foregoing Amendment, claims 19-43 have been canceled. Thus, upon entry of this paper, allowed claims 1-18 will remain in this application. Based on the above Amendments and following Remarks, Applicant respectfully submits the application is in condition for allowance.

### *Allowed Matter*

2. First, Applicants notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 1-18 are allowed.

### *Claim Rejections*

3. Claims 19-21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly anticipated by European Patent No. 1239367 (hereinafter, "Borgatti") or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Borgatti. Claims 19-21 have been canceled by way of the present amendment. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the outstanding rejections are moot and that the application is in condition for allowance.

### *Dependent Claims*

4. The dependent claims incorporate all of the subject matter of their respective independent claims and add additional subject matter which makes them *a fortiori* independently patentable over the art of record. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the outstanding rejections of the dependent claims be reconsidered and withdrawn.

***Conclusion***

5. In view of the foregoing, this application should be in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested.

Dated: October 25, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

Electronic signature: /Michael G. Verga/  
Michael G. Verga  
Registration No.: 39,410  
CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP  
1875 Eye Street, N.W.  
Suite 1100  
Washington, DC 20006  
(202) 331-7111 (Tel)  
(202) 293-6229 (Fax)  
Agent for Applicants